

**NEW!****AND FURTHERMORE**

Introduction

Have you ever read an article in *The Leader* and thought, “I’d like to be kept up to date on this topic; I wonder how I can get new information as it happens?” To help, we’ve added a new feature to the pages of *The Leader*. “And Furthermore” will keep you informed on how stories we have featured in past issues are progressing. This month, we have two updates for you. The story on the Bursary Building Program is a follow-up from our Summer 2005 issue. The second, on the Province’s Crystal Meth Strategy, appeared in our Winter 2006 issue – and already there are plenty of updates to that initiative. We hope you enjoy this new feature.

BURSARY BUILDING PROGRAM AIDS YOUNG MANITOBANS

In the Summer 2005 issue, we told you about a new bursary for Rural/Northern Students. The Manitoba Community Foundation Scholarship and Bursary Building Incentive Program provides provincial funding of \$500,000 to be used to leverage at least that amount in donor support to create \$1 million in endowment funds. The purpose of this bursary is to provide rural and northern students with resources to offset the costs of traveling or moving to larger centres to further their education. The Provincial contribution will be paid to local community foundations based on their success in growing educational endowments.

UPDATE:

On March 15, The Manitoba government and the Winnipeg Foundation announced that 14 of Manitoba’s eligible community foundations are participating in the program. Advanced Education and Training Minister **Diane McGifford** said, “The response from community foundations has been exceptional and many young Manitobans will have increased access to post-secondary education with this additional financial support to offset the costs of travelling or moving to larger centres.”

To date, 14 community foundations have created 17 new bursary or scholarship funds, added to four existing funds, and raised \$163,304. Participating foundations include Boissevain and Morton, Brokenhead River, Dauphin and district, Elkhorn and area, Glenboro area, Grandview and district, Interlake, North Norfolk-MacGregor, Portage and District, Roblin District, Reston and area, Swan Valley, Thompson and Westshore.

For more information visit <http://www.pgfdn.org>.

CRYSTAL METH: WHAT’S MANITOBA DOING?

The Winter 2006 issue featured this story on the Province’s crystal meth strategy. At the time, Manitoba had just introduced the Manitoba Meth Strategy, an approach aimed at restricting the supply and reducing the demand for crystal meth.

UPDATE:

The Manitoba Meth Task Force is a comprehensive government initiative with a goal of restricting the supply and reducing the demand for crystal meth in Manitoba. It is co-chaired by **Yvonne Block** of Healthy Living and **Keith McCaskill** of Justice, who ensure direction is provided to and information is shared between a compilation of committees and working groups committed to coming up with successful strategies to combat meth use and production. Accomplishments to date include:

1. The Pharmaceutical Drug Regulation was amended to restrict the sale of single ingredient pseudoephedrine products.
2. A public awareness campaign on the dangers of crystal meth production and use was initiated, along with a brochure entitled *Talking with your kids about crystal meth and other drugs*. For copies, call 1-866-626-4862.
3. The Government has announced new funding of 6.7 million dollars over the next three years for mental health and addictions services.
4. A working group with representatives from various provincial and municipal departments has been developing a single inter-departmental protocol to deal with the dangers associated with meth labs in a unified way.
5. The Prescribed Spraying Equipment and Controlled Products Regulation has been amended to make it mandatory to report the theft of anhydrous ammonia to the police.

6. The four Child and Family Services Authorities are examining the feasibility of developing an Endangered Child Protocol
7. Winnipeg Drug Treatment Court commenced operation on January 10, 2006.
8. Both the RCMP and the Winnipeg Police Service have posted information on their websites on how to identify clandestine drug labs.
9. In February 2006, Manitoba Crime Stoppers, Winnipeg Crime Stoppers and Brandon Crime Stoppers ran a ‘double your money’ month for information leading to the arrest of individuals trafficking in or producing crystal meth.
10. The Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act is being amended by the Province to include houses that are habitually used to produce drugs or controlled substances such as crystal meth.
11. The Government of Manitoba introduced legislation that would provide the ability for the court to order a drug-addicted youth into custody for a five-day detox and stabilization period.
12. The Government of Manitoba successfully lobbied Ottawa to increase the maximum penalties for trafficking and production of crystal meth to life imprisonment, and is currently lobbying in a number of other areas related to crystal meth.

RESOURCES:

Manitoba Meth Strategy:

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/healthyliving/meth>

RCMP website:

http://www.rcmp.ca/drugenf/drugs_e.htm

The City of Winnipeg website:

http://www.winnipeg.ca/police/drug_awareness/clandestinedruglabs.stm